

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A printer provided with a unit for forming an image and an endless intermediate belt trained under tension around rollers in such a manner that the belt can rotate over the rollers, said intermediate belt operatively communicating with said unit for the transfer of the image from said unit to a receiving material, wherein the belt comprises a fabric of threads as a support, the threads of the fabric being positioned substantially parallel to the peripheral direction of the belt so that when the intermediate belt rotates, a deviation of said belt axially is substantially independent of said tension.
2. (Original) The printer according to claim 1, wherein the fabric comprises one or more threads which extend substantially in the peripheral direction of the belt, wherein said one or more threads extend over a length L equal to the periphery of the belt in the axial direction over a distance D equal, at a maximum, to three percent of the length L.
3. (Original) The printer according to claim 2, wherein the distance D is between 0.1% and 1% of the length L.
4. (Original) A method of making an intermediate belt suitable for use in a printer which comprises:

weaving threads to form a fabric belt,

after-treating the fabric belt wherein the threads are repositioned,
maintaining the resulting position of the threads and
applying a top layer to the fabric belt.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the position obtained is fixed by the application of the top layer.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the top layer is a rubber which is applied in a non-hardened form to the fabric belt where it is hardened to fix the position of the threads.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 4, wherein the fabric belt comprises one or more threads which extend substantially in the peripheral direction of the fabric belt and the after-treatment is effected by increasing the fabric belt tension in such a manner that the said one or more threads experience a tensile stress in the peripheral direction.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 7, wherein the said one or more threads are made of a plastic having a softening temperature, wherein the fabric belt is heated during the tensioning process to above said softening temperature.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein the periphery of the fabric belt is increased during the tensioning process, whereafter the tension is

reduced until a situation is reached in which the fabric belt has a required periphery, which situation is maintained for a predetermined time, whereafter the fabric belt is cooled to below the softening temperature.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein during the repositioning of the threads and prior to cooling, the fabric belt is first over-stretched, whereafter the belt is brought to required final periphery with a reduction of the tension under which it is stretched.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 4 wherein the threads are interrupted in the vicinity of the edges of the belt.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein the interruption is achieved by notching or perforating the belt.